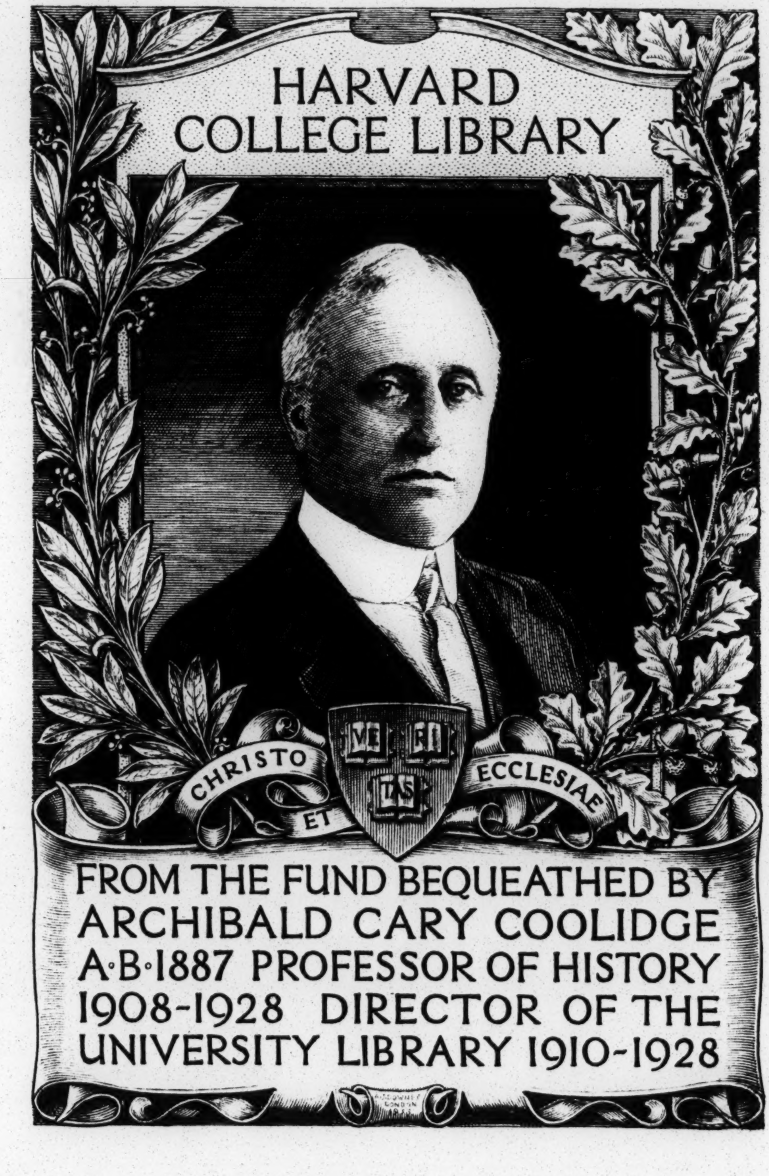
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HIS MAIESTIES MESSAGE

To BOTH HOVSES OF PARLIAMENT, *April*, 28. 1642.

Concerning his Refuſall to paſſe the Bill for the Militia,

TOGETHER WITH HIS MAJESTIES SECOND Meſſage to the Parliament, concerning Sir *Iohn Hothams* Refuſall to give his Majeſtie Entrance into his Towne of *Hull*.

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His Majeſties Meſſage to both Houſes of Parliament, April 28.

WE have with great Deliberation and Patience weighed and conſidered (it concerning Us much to weigh the conſequences of every Law before We paſſe it) your Bill lately ſent to Us for the ſetling of the Militia, and though it hath not bin uſuall to give any reaſon for our refuſall to paſſe any Bill (it being abſolutely in our power to paſſe, or not paſſe any Act ſent unto Us by you, if we conceive it prejudiciall to Our ſelf, or inconvenient for Our ſubjects, for whom we are truſted, and muſt one day give an account) Yet in this buſineſſe of the Militia, which being miſunderſtood amongſt our good ſubjects, hath bin uſed as an Argument as if we were not vigilant enough for the publike ſafety: and leſt we ſhould be thought leſſe conſtant in our Reſolutions, and this Bill to be the ſame we ſent unto you; we have thought fit to give you, and all the world particular ſatisfaction why we cannot, ought not, muſt not paſſe this Bill, being the firſt publike Bill, to Our remembrance, we have refuſed this Parliament. And therefore we muſt complain, That having expreſſed our Self ſo clearly & particularly in this point, you ſhould preſſe any thing upon us, which you could not but foreſee that we muſt refuſe, except we departed from thoſe Reſolutions, grounded upon ſo much reaſon, we had ſo earneſtly before acquainted you with, & againſt which you have not given one Argument to ſatisfie our judgment. We are pleaſed that you have declined the unwarrantable courſe of your Ordinance (to the which we are confident Our good ſubjects would never have yeelded conſent)and choſen this only right way of impoſing on our people,which we have allowed, but for the reaſon hereafter mentioned.

We refuſed to conſent to your Ordinance, as for other things,ſo for that the power was put into the perſons nominated therin by direction of both Houſes of Parliament, excluding us from any power in the diſpoſition or Execution of it together with you,we then adviſed you for many reaſons that a Bill ſhould be prepared,and after in our anſwer of the 26 of March laſt to the Petition of both Houſes, We told you if ſuch a Bill ſhould be prepared with that due regard to us,and care of our People in the limitation of the power and other Circumſtances, We ſhould recede from nothing we formerly expreſſed. What paſſed (enough to have diſcouraged Us from being further ſollicitous in that argument)after our full and gracious anſwers,we are content to forget.When we reſolved of our Journey into Ireland (ſo that by reaſon of Our abſence there might be no want of ſetling that power, beſides complying with your Fears) Wee ſent, together with a Meſſage of that our purpoſe,a Bill for the ſetling that power for a yeer,hoping in that time to return to you, and being ſure that in much leſſe timeyou might do the buſineſſe for which you ſeemed at firſt to deſire this , which was,That you might ſecurely conſider our meſſage of the 20.of Jan.laſt. By that Bill we conſented to thoſe names you propoſed in your Ordinance, and in the limitation of the power provided that Our ſelfe ſhould not be able to execute any thing but by your advice,and when we ſhould be out of the Kingdome, the ſole Execution to be in you,with many other things of ſo arbitrary and vncircumſcribed a Power, that Wee ſhould not have conſented to, but with reference to the abſence of Our own Perſon out of the Kingdome, and thought it the more ſufferable in reſpect the time was

but

but for a year. Whether this be the Bill you have now ſent Us to paſſe, let all the World judge.

You have by this Bill now tendred to Us, without taking notice of Us, put the power of the whole Kingdome, the Life and Liberties of the Subjects of all degrees and qualities, into the hands of particular men for two yeers. Can you imagine we will truſt ſuch an abſolute Power in the hands of particular Perſons, which we refuſed to commit to both Houſes of Parliament? Nay, is not the power it ſelf too abſolute, too vnlimitted to be committed into any private hands? Hath not Sir John Hothams high Inſolency ſhewed Us what Wee may expect from an exorbitant Legall Power, when he, by a power not warranted by Law, dares venture upon a Treaſonable diſobedience? But we would willingly know (and indeed ſuch an account in ordinary Civility we might have expected) why we are by this Act abſolutely excluded from any power or authority in the execution of this Militia. Sure your Fears and Jealouſies are of ſuch a Nature, as are capable of no other remedy, then by leaving vs no power in a point of the greateſt importance, in which God & the Law hath truſted us ſolely, & which we were contented to ſhare with you by Our Bill, by putting it and a greater into the hands of particular ſubjects. What would all Chriſtian Princes think of us, after we had paſſed ſuch a Bill? How would they value Our Soveraignty? and yet ſure Our Reputation with forreign Princes, is ſome ground of your ſecurity. Nay, wee are confident, by that time you have thoroly conſidered the poſſible conſequence of the bill upon your ſelvs, and the reſt of Our good Subjects, you and they will give us thanks for not conſenting to it, finding their condition had it paſſed not to have bin ſo pleaſing unto them. We hope this animadverſion wil be no breach of your priviledges in this throng of buſineſſe, & diſtemper of affections:

tions; Tis poſſible, ſecond thoughts may preſent ſomewhat to your conſiderations which eſcaped you before.

Wee passed this Parliament at your intreaty a Bill concerning the Captives at Argier, and waved many Obiections of Our owne to the contrary, upon Information, that the buſineſſe had been many months conſidered by you, Whether it prove ſutable to your Intentions, or whether you have not by ſome private Orders ſuſpended that Act of Parliament, upon view of the miſtakings, you beſt know: As likewiſe what other great Alterations you have made in other Bills paſſed this Seſſions. Wee cannot paſſe over the putting their names out of this Bill whom before you recommended to Us in your Ordiaance, it ſeemes not thinking fit to truſt thoſe who would obey no Guide but the Law of the Land (We imahine you would not wiſh We ſhould in Our eſtimation of others follow that your Rule) and the leaving out by ſpeciall providence the preſent Lord Maior of London, as a perſon in your diſfavour, whereas Wee muſt tell you, his Demeanour hath beene ſuch that the City, and the whole Kingdome is beholding to him for his Evample.

To conclude, We doe not finde Our ſelfe poſſeſſed o ſuch an exceſſe of Power, that it is fit to transferre, or conſent it ſhould be in other perſons (as is directed by this Bill) And therefore We ſhall rely upon that Royall Right and Juriſdiction which God and the law hath given Us for the ſuppreſſing of Rebellion, and reſiſting Forreigne Invaſion, which hath preſerved this Kingdome in the time of all Our Anceſtors, and which Wee doubt not, but We ſhall be able to execute, And not more for Our owne Honour and Right, then for the liberty and Safety of our People, We cannot conſent to paſſe this Bill.

His *Maieſties* ſecond Meſſage to the Parliament, concerning Sir *Iohn Hothums* Refuſall to give his Majeſty Entrance into his *Towne of Hull.*

WEE are ſo much concerned in the undutifull affront (an indignitie all our good Subjects muſt diſdaine in our behalfe) Wee received from Sir *Iohn Hotham* at *Hull*, that wee are impatient till we receive Juſtice from you; and are compelled to call againe for an Anſwer, being confident (however you would be ſo carefull, (though without Our conſent) to put a Garriſon into that Our Towne, to ſecure it and Our Magazine againſt any attempt of the Papiſts) that you never intended to diſpoſe and maintaine it againſt Vs your Soveraign: Therefore we require you forthwith (for the buſineſſe will admit no delay) That you take ſome ſpeedy courſe, that our ſaid Towne and Magazine be immediately delivered up unto Vs, and that ſuch ſevere exemplary proceedings be againſt thoſe perſons (who have offered Vs this unſupportable affront and injury) as by the Law is provided: And till this be done, Wee ſhall intend no buſineſſe whatſoever (other then the buſineſſe of *Ireland*)

For

For if wee are brought into a Condition ſo much worſe then any of our Subjects, that whilſt you all enjoy your Priviledges, and may not have your Poſſeſſions diſturbed, or your Titles queſtioned, VVee onely may bee ſpoiled, throwne out of our Townes, and our Goods taken from us; 'tis time to examine how VVe have loſt thoſe Priviledges, and to try all poſſible wayes, by the helpe of God, the Law of the Land, and the affection of Our good Subjects, to recover them, and vindicate our ſelfe from thoſe Injuris. And if we ſhall miſcarry herein, We ſhall be the firſt Prince of this Kingdome that hath done ſo; having no other end, but to de- *The true Proteſtant Profeſsion*, *The Law of the Land* and *The Liberty of the Subiect*: And God ſo deale with Vs, as we continue in thoſe Reſolutions.

FINIS.

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